

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME NEW SPECIES AND SUB-
SPECIES OF BIRDS FROM TROPICAL AMERICA.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY,
Curator, Division of Birds, U. S. National Museum.

[Published by permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.]

The following new species and subspecies have been noted during the preparation of Part VI of "Birds of North and Middle America." As the completion of this volume is still some months distant, it is thought desirable to publish the new forms without delay.

Capito aurantiiventris sp. nov.

Type from an unknown locality in the Upper Amazon Valley.* No. 7601, coll. Mus. Comp. Zool. Collected by Newton Dexter.

Agreeing with *C. peruvianus* (?) from eastern Ecuador, etc., in orange-red throat (unspotted in both sexes), but differing in having the forehead wax yellow instead of reddish orange, rump streaked with golden yellow or orange instead of sulphur yellow, and the abdomen and flanks crossed by a broad band of orange-yellow or yellowish orange instead of being pale sulphur yellow, passing into white posteriorly.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 83; tail, 50.5; culmen (from base), 22.5; tarsus, 22; outer anterior toe, 19.5.

Capito auratus bolivianus subsp. nov.

Type from Rio Beni, Bolivia. No. 47,379, Mus. Comp. Zoology; adult male. (Native skin.)

Differing from *C. a. auratus* of eastern Peru and Ecuador to Colombia,

*According to information received from Mr. Bangs, the specimens collected by Newton Dexter, while accompanying the Thayer Expedition, were mostly made on the Rio Negro and Rio Tapajós, and Mr. Bangs thinks the bird designated above came from somewhere along the latter. Unfortunately, through some one's carelessness, the original labels of the specimens of birds in the collection were all removed, so there is now no record of the localities or other data.

Venezuela, and the Guianas, in deep russet, instead of olive-yellowish, pileum and darker color of tail and remiges.

Measurements of type.—Wing (outer primaries wanting); tail, 35; culmen (from base), 24.5; tarsus (feet wanting).

***Aulacorhynchus prasinus virescens* subsp. nov.**

Type from Chasnuigas, Honduras. No. 120,263, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult female. Collected by E. Wittkugel, Jan. 2, 1891.

Differing from *A. p. prasinus*, of southeastern Mexico, in smaller size (except bill and feet), relatively much shorter tail, deeper chestnut of under tail-coverts, and more yellowish green of under parts (the chest never tinged with blue), and white of throat of a yellowish hue, especially next to the green of lower foreneck.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 119; tail, 104.5; culmen, 58; tarsus, 34; outer anterior toe, 26.

The average measurements of four adult males of the same form from northern Nicaragua, compared with those of six adult males of *A. p. prasinus* from Vera Cruz and five from Chiapas and Guatemala, are as follows:

Four adult males from Nicaragua: Wing, 122.1; tail, 108; culmen, 74.7; tarsus, 34.4.

Five adult males from Chiapas and Guatemala: Wing, 132.5; tail, 122.2; culmen, 74.6; tarsus, 33.9.

Six adult males from Vera Cruz: Wing, 129.2; tail, 113.4; culmen, 73.1; tarsus, 34.1.

***Pteroglossus torquatus erythrozonus* subsp. nov.**

Type from Temax, Yucatan. No. 106,310, U. S. National Museum; adult; collected by Geo. F. Gannier.

Similar to *P. t. torquatus*, but much smaller, and color of thighs and under tail-coverts paler (dull cinnamon-rufous instead of chestnut).

Measurements of type.—Wing, 140; tail, 136.5; culmen, 89.5; tarsus, 32; outer anterior toe, 27.5.

***Monasa rikeri* sp. nov.**

Type from Diamantina, lower Amazon, Brazil, June 30, 1887. No. 121,033, U. S. National Museum, adult male. Collected by C. B. Riker.

Agreeing with *M. grandior* Selater and Salvin, of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, in black malar apex combined with white or light rusty chin and forehead, but decidedly smaller, with the lower throat, crown, and occiput slate color or deep slate-gray instead of black; and white (or pale rusty) capistrum rather more restricted. Differing from *M. peruana* Selater, of the Upper Amazon Valley, in the black (instead of white) malar apex.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 121.5; tail, 115.5; exposed culmen, 32; tarsus, 20.5; outer exterior toe, 17.5.

This form has hitherto been referred to *M. morphæus* (Hahn and Küster), of eastern Brazil, but is decidedly smaller and differs further in the black instead of white malar apex. Six specimens (from Diamantina, Santarem, and Itaituba) agree in the characters mentioned.

***Monasa sclateri* sp. nov.**

Type from central Colombia ("Bogota" trade skin). No. 64,076, adult, U. S. National Museum.

Similar in restriction of white (or pale rusty) on head to forehead and lores (the chin and malar apex being black) to *M. pallescens* Cassin, of extreme northwestern Colombia, but conspicuously different in much darker coloration of the wing-coverts, which are deep slate-gray instead of pale hoary gray, becoming nearly white on anterior portion of lesser covert area and under side of wing.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 140; tail, 134; exposed culmen, 35; tarsus, 20; outer anterior toe, 19.

This is the "*Monasa pallescens*" of Sclater and various authors, but not of Cassin. True *M. pallescens* seems to be unknown in collections except for the type and co-types, from the Rio Truando, in the collections of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and the U. S. National Museum. Seven specimens of *M. sclateri* examined, from "Bogota," and near Honda, Tolima.

***Momotus lessonii exiguus* subsp. nov.**

Type from Temax, Yucatan. No. 106,311, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. Adult male. January, 1885. Collected by F. Gaumer.

Similar to *M. l. lessonii*, but general color rather lighter and decidedly greener, the hindneck always green (concolor with back, etc.), and under parts with tawny wash (if present) confined to chest; bill averaging decidedly smaller.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 130; tail, 210; bill from nostril, 26.5; tarsus, 28.5; middle toe, 19.

***Electron* carinatus viridis* subsp. nov.**

Type from La Vijagua, northern Costa Rica. No. 21,067, coll. E. A. and O. Bangs. Adult male. March 3, 1908. Collected by C. F. Underwood.

Similar to *E. c. carinatus*, but general color of under parts dull green, tinged on foreneck, chest, and breast with olive-green, but without the tawny oil green suffusion always present and often conspicuous in *E. c. carinatus*, the posterior under parts light bluish green; upper parts

* *Electron* Gistel, *Naturg. des Thierreichs für höhere Schulen*, 1848, p. viii. (New name for *Crypticus* "Bonaparte" i. e. Swainson, preoccupied.)

As this name antedates *Prionornis* Salvin and Godman (*Biol. Centr.-Am.*, ii, sig. 59,* July, 1895, 167), I do not see how we can avoid its use as the correct name for this genus.

purser (less yellowish) green; bill relatively broader and more strongly arched.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 116; tail, 180; exposed culmen, 37; tarsus, 17; middle toe, 14.

***Eumomota superciliaris bipartitus* subsp. nov.**

Type from Cacoprieto, Oaxaca. No. 145,282, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. Adult male. February, 1880. Collected by Prof. A. Sumichrast.

Similar to *E. s. superciliaris*, from Yucatan, Campeche, and eastern Tabasco, but with under parts of body divided into two very sharply defined differently colored areas, the breast uniform olive-greenish, the remaining portion uniform cinnamon-rufous; cinnamon-rufous interscapular area usually either much larger or better defined.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 114.5; tail, 219; exposed culmen, 41; tarsus, 22; middle toe, 17.5.

***Antrostomus nelsoni* sp. nov.**

Type from Chichen-Itza, Yucatan. No. 40,093, coll. Mus. Comp. Zool. Adult male. March 29, 1904. Collected by L. J. Cole.

Resembling *A. salvini* Hartert in size and general coloration, but differing conspicuously in the much greater extent and different pattern of the white terminal areas to lateral rectrices, which extend farther from the tip on inner webs than on the outer; in the broad and conspicuous unbroken collar of tawny-ochraceous across hindneck, and immaculate, instead of barred, under tail-coverts.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 177; tail, 128; exposed culmen, 13.5; tarsus, 17.5; middle toe, 17.

This is the bird which Mr. Nelson, in describing his *A. notabilis* (from Tamaulipas), considered to be the *A. salvini* of Hartert; but since the latter was based exclusively and explicitly on the *A. macromystax* (not *Caprimulgus macromystax* Wagler) of Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway, which is the same as *A. notabilis*, it is very obvious that Mr. Nelson made an error in the case, the exceeding poor colored figure in the "Biologia Centrali-Americana" having misled him.

It is barely possible that *A. nelsoni* may prove to be the male of *A. badius* Bangs from British Honduras, but the general coloration of the latter is very much more rufescent and the two are just as likely to prove quite distinct. Unfortunately the type and only known specimen of *A. badius* is a female (though erroneously determined as male), so that we are as yet ignorant as to the color-pattern of the tail in the male of that form.

***Nyctidromus albicollis nelsoni* subsp. nov.**

Type from city of Colima, Colima, southwestern Mexico. No. 154,746, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. (Biological Survey coll.). Adult male; March 26, 1892; collected by E. W. Nelson.

Decidedly larger and paler than *N. a. albicollis*, the tawny phase averaging lighter and brighter in color, with buff margins to scapulars broader; gray phase similar in coloration to *N. a. mercilli* but much smaller.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 162; tail, 155; exposed culmen, 12; tarsus, 25; middle toe, 20.5.

***Nyctidromus albicollis sumichrasti* subsp. nov.**

Type from Teapa, Tabasco, southeastern Mexico. No. 166,060, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. (Biol. Surv. coll.). Adult male. March 10, 1900. Collected by Nelson and Goldman.

Similar in coloration to *N. a. albicollis*, but much larger; similar in size to *N. a. nelsoni* and *N. a. yucatanensis*, but much darker.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 172.5; tail, 169.5; exposed culmen, 13; tarsus, 25; middle toe, 20.5.

The recognizable forms of this species occurring from Panama northward are as follows:

1. *Nyctidromus albicollis albicollis* (Gmelin).—Panama to State of Chiapas, southern Mexico.

2. *Nyctidromus albicollis yucatanensis* Nelson.—Yucatan, Campeche, and extreme eastern Tabasco; British Honduras (in fall and winter).

3. *Nyctidromus albicollis sumichrasti* Ridgway.—Tabasco to Vera Cruz, eastern Mexico.

4. *Nyctidromus albicollis nelsoni* Ridgway.—Southwestern Mexico, from Oaxaca to Sinaloa.

5. *Nyctidromus albicollis insularis* Nelson.—Tres Marias Islands.

6. *Nyctidromus albicollis mercilli* Sennett.—Northeastern Mexico, in State of Tamaulipas and southern Texas; in winter south to Mirador, Vera Cruz and Metlatocuca, Puebla.

***Nyctibius griseus costaricensis* subsp. nov.**

Type from Sarchí, Alajuela, Costa Rica. No. 85,550, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. Adult female. August 6, 1881; José C. Zeledón, collector.

Agreeing in size with *N. g. jamaicensis*, but coloration darker; decidedly smaller and darker than *N. g. mexicanus*; averaging decidedly larger than *N. g. panamensis* and coloration lighter.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 290; tail, 202; exposed culmen, 20; tarsus, 11.5; middle toe, 19.5.

***Nyctibius griseus panamensis* subsp. nov.**

Type from Natá, Coelé, Panamá. No. 154,252, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. Adult male. Jan. 24, 1889. Collected by Heyde and Lux.

Similar in coloration to *N. g. griseus*, but decidedly larger; averaging decidedly smaller than *N. g. costaricensis* and coloration darker.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 270; tail, 198; exposed culmen, 20; tarsus, 12; middle toe, 20.

Nyctibius maculosus sp. nov.

Type from Ambato, Ecuador. No. 35,571, coll. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.; M. A. Vascomez, collector.

Similar in size to *N. griseus jamaicensis*, but coloration very different; general tone of coloration much darker, the under wing-coverts and inner webs of primaries uniform sooty blackish, posterior under parts spotted with black, and a large white or whitish area on middle wing-coverts.

Measurements of type.—Length (skin), 340 mm.; wing, 265; tail, 185; exposed culmen, 21.5; tarsus, 10.5; middle toe, 19.

A specimen from Bogotá, Colombia (no. 4384, coll. Am. Mus. N. H.), is evidently the same species, but may represent a different subspecies. It differs in having the middle wing-covert area nearly pure white, and the posterior under parts apparently white and with less heavy markings; much of the plumage of the under parts is wanting, however. It measures: Wing, 265; tail, 187; exposed culmen, 23; tarsus, 9.5; middle toe, 19.5.